

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMSLISTING OF CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

--1-30 (Cancelled).

--31. (Currently Amended) A playback apparatus for playing back contents by sequentially switching the contents in accordance with a first and second play lists ~~in which~~ identifying the contents that are recorded, the playback apparatus comprising:

display means for producing a display such that displays showing contents in the first and second play lists are arranged so that the contents are continuous in sequence in a playback sequence from a content that is currently played back at least from one of a display of an operation element for instructing a starting of playback and a display of an operation element for instructing a stopping of playback; and

switching means for switching between the arrangements of the displays of the first and second play lists showing the contents in response to the switching of the playback of the contents-_L

wherein a display showing content whose playback is terminated is placed at an end of the arrangement of the contents forming the first or second play list from which it was played.

--32. (Canceled)

--33. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein a display showing the content is a name of the content.

--34. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein the content is audio data.

--35. (Currently Amended) A playback apparatus for playing back contents by sequentially switching the contents in accordance with a play list ~~in which~~ identifying the contents that are recorded, the playback apparatus comprising:

display forming means for forming a display showing a piece of content that is currently played back and a piece of content that will be ~~subsequently~~ played back next in a predetermined area of a display section;

display means for producing a display such that displays showing contents of the play list are arranged so that the play list contents become continuous in sequence in a playback sequence with respect to the display showing the content that is currently played back; and

switching means for switching the arrangement of the display showing the content that is currently played back and the display showing the contents of the play list~~;~~

wherein a display showing content whose playback is terminated is placed at an end of the arrangement of the contents

forming the play list.

--36. (Canceled)

--37. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus according to Claim 35, wherein a display showing the content is a name of the content.

--38. (Currently Amended) A playback apparatus for playing back contents in sequence in accordance with a first and second play lists ~~in which~~ identifying the contents to be played back ~~are recorded,~~ the playback apparatus comprising:

play list display means for displaying the first and second play lists;

playback means for switching between displays of the first and second play lists and for playing back one piece of content of a the second play list when a playback of one piece of content of a the first play list is terminated; and

current play display means for displaying ~~at least~~ the piece of content that is currently played back and the piece of content to be ~~subsequently~~ played back next such that the contents are mutually distinguished from other content-.

wherein a display showing a piece of content whose playback is terminated is placed at an end of the corresponding arrangement

--39. (Currently Amended) The playback apparatus according

to Claim 38, further comprising:

first display means for producing a display such that displays showing contents of the first and second play lists are arranged so that the contents are continuous in sequence in a playback sequence from content that is currently played back at least one of from a display of an operation element for instructing the starting of playback and from a display of an operation element for instructing a stopping of playback; and

second display means for displaying at least the piece of content that is currently being played back and the content to be ~~subsequently~~ played back next such that the contents are mutually distinguished from other content.

--40. (Canceled)

--41. (Currently Amended) The playback apparatus according to Claim 38, further comprising:

display forming means for forming a display showing the content that is currently played back in a predetermined area of a display section;

continuous display means for producing a display such that displays showing contents of the first and second play lists are arranged so that the contents become continuous in sequence in a playback sequence with respect to the display showing the content that is currently being played back; and

distinguishing display means for displaying at least the content that is currently being played back and the content to be

subsequently played back next such that the contents can be mutually distinguished from the other content.

--42. (Canceled)

--43. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus according to Claim 38, wherein the content is audio data and the playback results of the continuous contents are mixed and output.

--44. (Currently Amended) A playback method for playing back contents by switching the contents in sequence in accordance with a first and second play lists ~~in which~~ identifying the contents that are recorded, the playback method comprising the steps of:

producing a display such that displays showing the contents in the first and second play lists are arranged so that the contents are in sequence in a playback sequence from the content that is currently being played back at least one of from a display of an operation element for instructing the starting of playback and from a display of an operation element for instructing the stopping of playback; and

switching between the arrangements of the displays of the first and second play lists showing the contents in response to the switching of the playback of the contents-1

wherein the display showing the content whose playback has been terminated is placed at an end of the arrangement of the contents forming the first or second play list from which it was

played back.

--45. (Canceled)

--46. (Previously Presented) The playback method according to Claim 44, wherein the display showing the content is a name of the content.

--47. (Previously Presented) The playback method according to Claim 44, wherein the content is audio data.

--48. (Currently Amended) A playback method for playing back contents by switching the contents in sequence in accordance with a first and second play lists ~~in which~~ identifying the contents that are recorded, the playback method comprising the steps of:

forming a display showing content that is currently played back in a predetermined area of a display section;

producing a display such that displays showing contents of the first and second play lists are arranged so that the first and second play lists contents become continuous in sequence in a playback sequence with respect to the display showing the content that is currently played back; and

switching between the arrangements of the displays of the first and second play lists showing the contents in response to the switching of the playback of the contents-1

wherein a display showing content whose playback is

terminated is placed at an end of said arrangement of the contents forming the first or second play list from which it was played back.

--49. (Canceled)

--50. (Previously Presented) The playback method according to Claim 48, wherein the display showing the content is a name of the content.

--51. (Currently Amended) A playback method for playing back contents in sequence in accordance with a first and second play lists ~~in which~~ identifying the contents that are recorded, the playback method comprising the steps of:

displaying the first and second play lists;

switching between displays of the first and second play lists and playing back one piece of content of the second play list when a playback of one piece of content of the first play list is terminated; and

displaying at least content that is currently played back and content to be played back such that the currently played contents and the subsequently played contents are mutually distinguished from other content-1

placing a display showing content whose playback is terminated at an end of the corresponding arrangement of the contents forming the first or second play list from which it was played back.

--52. (Currently Amended) The playback method according to Claim 51, further comprising the steps of:

producing a display such that displays showing contents of the first and second play lists are arranged so that the contents become continuous in sequence in a playback sequence from the content which is currently played back at least from one of a display of an operation element for instructing a starting of playback and a display of an operation element for instructing a stopping of playback; and

displaying at least the content that is currently played back and the content to be ~~subsequently~~ played back next such that the currently played content and the subsequently played content are mutually distinguished from other content.

--53. (Canceled)

--54. (Currently Amended) The playback method according to Claim 51, further comprising the steps of:

forming a display showing the content that is currently played back in a predetermined area of a display section;

producing a display such that displays showing contents of the first and second play lists are arranged so that the contents become continuous in sequence in a playback sequence with respect to the display showing the content that is currently played back; and

displaying at least the content that is currently played

back and the content to be ~~subsequently~~ played back next such that the currently played content and the subsequently played content are mutually distinguished from other content.

--55. (Canceled)

--56. (Previously Presented) The playback method according to Claim 51, wherein the content is audio data and playback results of the continuous contents are mixed and output.

--57. (Currently Amended) A recording medium on which a playback processing procedure for playing back contents by switching the contents in sequence in accordance with first and second play lists ~~in which~~ identifying the contents that are recorded, the playback procedure comprising the steps of:

producing a display such that displays showing contents of the first and second play lists are arranged so that the contents are continuous in sequence in a playback sequence from content that is currently played back at least from one of a display of an operation element for instructing a starting of playback and a display of an operation element for instructing a stopping of playback; and

switching between the arrangements of the displays of the first and second play lists showing the contents in response to the switching of the playback of the content-1

wherein the playback processing procedure places a display showing content whose playback is terminated at an end of the

arrangement of the contents of the first or second play list from which it was played back.

--58. (Canceled)

--59. (Currently Amended) A recording medium on which a playback processing procedure for playing back contents in sequence by switching the contents in accordance with a first and second play lists ~~in which~~ identifying the contents that are recorded, the playback processing procedure comprising the steps of:

forming a display showing content that is currently played back in a predetermined area of a display section;

producing a display such that displays showing contents of the first and second play lists are arranged so that the first and second play lists contents become continuous in sequence in a playback sequence with respect to the display showing the content that is currently played back; and

switching between the arrangements of the displays of the first and second play lists in response to the switching of the playback of the contents~~;~~

wherein the playback processing procedure places a display showing content whose playback is terminated at an end of the arrangement of the contents forming the first or second play list from which it was played back.

--60. (Canceled)

--61. (Currently Amended) A recording medium on which a playback processing procedure is recorded for playing back contents in sequence in accordance with a first and second play lists ~~in which~~ identifying the contents that are recorded, the playback processing procedure comprising the steps of:

displaying the first and second play lists;

switching between displays of the first and second play lists and playing back a piece of content of the second play list when a playback of a piece of content of a the first play list is terminated; and

displaying at least content that is currently played back and content to be ~~subsequently~~ played back next such that the currently played content and the subsequently played content are mutually distinguished from other content-; and

placing content whose playback is terminated at an end of the corresponding arrangement.

--62. (Previously Presented) The recording medium according to Claim 61, wherein the playback processing procedure further comprises the step of:

producing a display such that displays showing the contents of the first and second play lists are arranged so that the contents become in sequence in a sequence in which playback is performed starting from the content that is currently being played back at least from one of a display of an operation element for instructing a starting of playback and a display of

an operation element for instructing a stopping of playback.

--63. (Canceled)

--64. (Previously Presented) The recording medium according to Claim 61, the processing procedure further comprising the steps of:

forming a display showing the content that is currently played back in a predetermined area of a display section; and

producing a display such that displays showing the contents of the first and second play lists are arranged so that the contents become continuous in sequence in a playback sequence with respect to the display showing the content that is currently played back.

--65. (Canceled)